

served as the director of the Army budget and as commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division (Mech) at Fort Riley, Kansas—the legendary “Big Red One.”

Joe has earned the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Joe joined USAA in 1994 after retiring from the U.S. Army. He assumed the position of President and CEO in 2007 after serving as the CFO for several years. Under his leadership as CEO, USAA has thrived. Despite the economic slump Joe steered USAA to earn the highest possible ratings for financial strength from Moody's, A.M. Best, and Standard & Poor's.

Committed to advocating for military families, Joe has guided USAA to a leadership role in hiring veterans and military spouses and offering them careers in the private sector. Joe was invited to the White House and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to be recognized for USAA's efforts in this area and demonstrating their commitment by ensuring that veterans and military spouses were 30 percent of USAA's new hires in 2013.

All of these achievements are astounding by themselves, but Joe also became a dedicated and active member of his community. Joe is the Chairman of the CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health System and of the P16Plus Council of Greater Bexar County Foundation. He also serves on the American Red Cross Board of Governors and on the boards of directors of The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas—San Antonio Branch, DTE Energy, the CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital Foundation, and San Antonio's Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation, as well as the Advisory Board of the Kay Bailey Hutchison Center for Latin America Law at the University of Texas.

In 2009, The Christian Science Monitor named Joe the “No. 1 Veteran in Business.” That same year, American Banker named him “Innovator of the Year.” In 2012, Robles was honored as “Executive of the Year” by Arizona State University and, in 2013, Bank Innovation named him one of the “10 Most Innovative CEOs in Banking in the U.S.”

In 2010, Joe led the San Antonio and Bexar County United Way campaign to a record result, and in 2012, he was tapped by my brother, then-San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, to co-chair the city's Brainpower Initiative, which led to the Pre-K 4 SA program to fund preschool education for thousands of San Antonio's children.

Joe has left an indelible mark on the military, USAA, and the San Antonio community. He will be sorely missed for his leadership, sound judgment, and commitment to the community. But what those closest to him will miss most are his immense compassion and genuine care for all those around him. Joe's character is, indeed, his hallmark. Congratulations, Joe Robles, on your successful career, incredible accomplishments—but most of all—your lasting impact on all those you have led and worked with along the way! As a native of San Antonio—I hope and expect I will see much more of you in the years to come.

HONORING CHARLES GARNATI FOR HIS 30 YEARS OF SERVICE AS WILLIAMSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Charles Garnati, who retired this month after 30 years as State's Attorney for Williamson County, Illinois.

Charles Garnati has actually served in the Williamson County State's Attorney's office for parts of five decades. He worked in the office for a brief time in the 1970s and then was elected to his first term as State's Attorney in 1984. He would serve continuously as State's Attorney until retiring this month due to health reasons. At his retirement, Garnati was the longest continuously serving state's attorney in the State of Illinois.

During his career as State's Attorney, Garnati has prosecuted perpetrators of the most heinous crimes, including 30 murder trials. He was able to get first degree murder convictions in 29 of those 30 trials. Garnati is quick to praise his legal staff in the State's Attorney's office as well as the law enforcement agencies within his jurisdiction for the success rate of his office.

Garnati always approached his job as both making those who commit crimes pay for their actions and also to provide justice to the victims of those crimes. Particularly in murder cases, he was keenly aware of the pain suffered by the families of victims.

Garnati accepted as a personal challenge the prosecution of those who harmed children. As part of that crusade, he helped found two programs for children, the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center and the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Williamson County program. His annual golf scramble has raised more than \$350,000 for these programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Charles Garnati well and thanking him for a lifetime of service to the people of Southern Illinois.

REGARDING H. RES. 707

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a cosponsor in support of H. Res. 707, a resolution condemning all forms of anti-Semitism. I also rise to spotlight the troubling and rising tide of hate crimes against Jews that has recently begun sweeping the globe. There have been violent attacks against Jews in the Middle East, death threats in Latin America, synagogues fire-bombed in Europe and the desecration of the property of Jews in North Africa.

World leaders have spoken out against these acts of violence and condemned those responsible. The resolution I helped to introduce expresses that same sentiment by unequivocally condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and urging the secretary of state to main-

tain as a foreign policy priority of the United States the fight against anti-Semitism in all of its forms.

The resolution also recognizes that condemnation alone will do little without the added threat of strong and effective laws to back it up. The resolution urges governments around the world to ensure that adequate laws are in place to monitor and punish those responsible for anti-Semitic violence and hate crimes.

Today I stand with my colleagues on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives in solidarity with all those around the world who will not permit these hate crimes to pass without comment and who believe that acts of religiously and ethnically motivated violence against one of us is an act perpetrated against all of us.

HONORING THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Pleasant Valley Historical Society as it celebrates 50 years as an exceptional organization that has been dedicated to promoting community pride, encouraging historical interest, and preserving and presenting the history of the Pleasant Valley.

The Pleasant Valley Historical Society was founded in 1964, when a small group of community members, including the Honorable Stanley J. Daily, Mayor Emeritus of Camarillo, Ms. Pat Meredith, and Mr. Jack Fulkerson, established the organization with the intent to preserve the history and artifacts of the region, which is comprised of the areas of Camarillo, Pleasant Valley, Somis, and Santa Rosa.

The diverse people and cultures that have encompassed Pleasant Valley have contributed to making the area a unique and special place. From the time of the Chumash that resided in the region to the Spanish and Mexican settlers to the Americans who settled there when the newly formed State of California emerged, the Pleasant Valley has a rich heritage and history.

Throughout the past five decades, the Pleasant Valley Historical Society has attracted hundreds of local residents and out of state visitors to enjoy and learn about the heritage of the Pleasant Valley. In 1985, the Museum and Botanical Gardens were established to showcase native plant species and educate visitors about the history of the land.

The Pleasant Valley Historical Society also holds annual celebrations recognizing valued longtime residents of Pleasant Valley and honoring these volunteers as pillars of the community; bestowing the title of Don and Doña upon them for their civic service and philanthropy. In addition, the Pleasant Valley Historical Society holds numerous events on local history that foster a sense of community within the region which is valued by all who have interacted with the organization.

For fifty years, the Pleasant Valley Historical Society has promoted and celebrated the history and culture of the Pleasant Valley area. It

is with great enthusiasm that I offer the Pleasant Valley Historical Society my sincere congratulations in reaching this significant milestone, and I am pleased to join them in celebrating the 50th anniversary of their establishment.

TURKEY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my grave concern for Turkey's actions, or should I say lack thereof, vis-a-vis regional security in the Middle East.

As ISIS sweeps across Iraq and Syria, we know many foreign fighters have joined their ranks. But what I find incredibly disturbing is that Turkey, a NATO ally, is one of the most active recruitment sources for ISIS. According to reports, as many as 1,000 Turks have joined the ranks of ISIS.

Turkey must do more to stop its citizens from joining ISIS, and a good starting point would be to shut down the recruitment operation that has thus far been ignored.

Also problematic are the dozens of oil fields and refineries that ISIS now controls across Iraq and Syria. Control of this oil has given ISIS a steady flow of funds placed around \$1–\$2 million per day on the black market. Turkey again needs to step up and do more to curb the flow of this oil through its territory and put a stop to ISIS's smuggling network.

I would also like to express my concern for the erosion of civil liberties and rule of law in Turkey. Intimidation of the press, private businesses, and other civil society actors has been reported. This, along with abuses of religious freedom and surface-level reforms, has made clear that Turkey's democracy is not moving in the right direction.

It's time for the Turkish government to take a stand. It's time to lift restrictions on the media and religion, among other key sectors of society. And it's time to put a stop to ISIS's financial and personnel networks that flow through Turkey.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MEDICARE RIGHTS CENTER FOR 25 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVICE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, 25 years ago, the Medicare Rights Center was created. Since then, seniors, people with disabilities, their friends and family members, and policymakers have benefitted from the Center's expertise.

Since its founding in 1989, the Medicare Rights Center has provided critical advice to individuals who want to find out about Medicare's benefits, learn about enrollment and eligibility, and get help in resolving any problems that they may face. My constituents—and constituents around the country—have called the Medicare Rights Center's hotline and received help—whether from the Center's excellent

staff or from one of its many well-trained volunteer counselors.

The Medicare Rights Centers' newsletters—"Dear Marci," "Medicare Watch," and "Inside Medicare Rights"—are invaluable. "Dear Marci" is a great tool for individuals who want clear and user-friendly information about how they can get the most from their Medicare benefits, avoid problems, get help and voice their views. Other publications and special reports provide those of us in Congress with critical information about the specifics of the law and its implementation. Because the Medicare Rights Center sees the actual, on-the-ground impacts of Medicare policies, they help us determine the actual effects of current policies and identify specific improvements that can be made.

Medicare Rights Center president Joe Baker and federal policy adviser Stacy Sanders are frequently found on Capitol Hill, testifying and responding to information requests from Congressional offices. The Seniors Task Force, which I co-chair, has been privileged to have Medicare Rights Center representatives join us to brief members and staff about Medicare trends, policies and impacts.

I want to congratulate and thank Diane Archer, the founder of the Medicare Rights Center, and all the past and current staff, volunteers and board members for the work that you have done to provide quality, affordable care for seniors, people with disabilities and all Americans.

Congratulations on your first 25 years of service to America, and I wish you many more productive years in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND AND THE WILDERNESS ACT BEING SIGNED INTO LAW

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, September marks the 50th anniversary of both the creation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Wilderness Act being signed into law. I rise in celebration of these two milestones, as they have resulted in the preservation of our nation's most treasured resources.

For 50 years, LWCF has remained the nation's premier conservation and recreation support program. While authorized by Congress, the program is not funded by taxpayer dollars, making it a responsible, practical method to protect our nation's natural landscape and beauty.

The parks, trails, forests, wildlife refuges, battlefields, historic sites, and working lands sustained by LWCF funding support an outdoor recreation and tourism sector that contributes a total of \$1.06 trillion annually to the American economy. This program supports 9.4 million jobs that are vital to our nation's recovery.

Additionally, since President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into law, Congress has added over 100 million acres to the unique land preservation system. This landmark conservation bill created a way for Americans to protect their cherished wild lands for future generations.

Polling has found that a strong majority of the American people believe that Congress should continue to honor its commitment to both the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Wilderness Act. I am proud to stand with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to preserve and protect these programs.

OBSERVER STATUS FOR TAIWAN AT THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, greater, more meaningful participation for Taiwan in international organizations is based on the need for the international community to marshal all of its expertise in meeting today's global challenges. For example, in a world trying to contain what is a grave Ebola epidemic, it would make no sense for a nation with Taiwan's resources and expertise to be completely shut out of the deliberations of the World Health Organization. It took the SARS crisis for Taiwan to achieve observer status, but its participation should be maximized as much as possible, given that global health crises may grow more frequent with increased globalization.

Additionally, while I welcome the invitation that was extended to Taiwan by the leadership of the International Civil Aviation Organization to attend last September's assembly, Taiwan should at the very least have an ongoing seat at the table. The number of air travelers has grown, the threat of terrorism has not dissipated, and yet Taiwan is unable to receive the real-time safety information made available to all ICAO members.

These are just two examples of how the world does not benefit from Taiwan's isolation from the technical and expert deliberations of international organizations. There are others. Working to assist Taiwan to gain entry as an observer into the ICAO, just as we did in the case of the World Health Assembly and as we must do on other fronts, is the right thing to do for Taiwan, for the United States, and for the world. I urge my colleagues to redouble our efforts on this front.

HONORING NANCY ANN MCCALLISTER

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of New Mexico resident Nancy Ann McCallister, who passed away on August 16, 2014.

Nancy was a lifelong resident of New Mexico, with family ties to some of New Mexico's oldest families. She was a descendant of Don Juan Vigil y Montes de Santa Anna, and Michel des Marais, who would later become one of the founders of the city of Las Vegas in 1835. To this day Nancy's family continues to live in New Mexico, preserving the rich cultural heritage of their ancestors.